



**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE  
AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING  
BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

To the Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council  
City of Durham, North Carolina

We have audited the financial statements of City of Durham, North Carolina as of and for the year ended June 30, 2003, and have issued our report thereon dated October 10, 2003. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

**Compliance**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether City of Durham's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered City of Durham's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weakness. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weakness. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that we have reported to management of the City of Durham in a separate letter dated October 10, 2003.

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This report is intended solely for the information and use of the City Council, management, and federal and State awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specific parties.

*Cherry, BeKaert & Holland, L.L.P.*

Greensboro, North Carolina  
October 10, 2003